

IN THE TITLE:

Please change the title as follows:

~~Microwave Treatment of Chemical Substances in a Container~~ Apparatus and Method
for Treating Chemical Substances in a Microwave Field

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 2, line 20 has been deleted as follows:

~~This object is achieved by the features of Claim 1 and 16, respectively. Advantageous developments of the invention are described in the associated subclaims.~~

The paragraph beginning at page 2, line 24 has been changed as follows:

~~In the case of the invention according to Claims 1 and 16~~ one embodiment of the invention, provision is made for a device for spirally guiding the substance in the flow-through container which ensures spiral guidance of the substance as it flows through. As a result, the apparatus can be substantially simplified compared with the prior art, since the spiral guidance enables a flow-through movement and simultaneously a translatory movement without the need for a rotary mounting and a drive for the flow-through container, as is known in the case of the prior art. The design according to the invention therefore enables not only a simplification of the construction, but also a small, in particular narrow, construction, since a spiral guide can be realised in a simple construction and requires only a small space, in particular a narrow space. At the same time, a large flow-through capacity can be achieved.

The paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30 as been deleted as follows:

~~This object is achieved by the features of Claim 2 and 17, respectively. Advantageous developments of the invention are described in the associated subclaims.~~

The paragraph beginning at page 4, line 2 has been changed as follows:

~~In the case of the invention according to Claims 2 and 17~~ another embodiment of the invention, provision is made for a mixing device for thorough mixing of the substance while it is flowing through the flow-through container. As a result, the homogeneous state of the substance is maintained or improved. The design according to the invention is therefore also suitable for low flow-through rates where there is a particular risk of segregation.

The paragraph beginning at page 4, line 31 has been changed as follows:

It is furthermore advantageous for the flow-through container to protrude from the microwave chamber on one side. In this protruding section, it is possible to realise, ~~independently of the inventive designs according to Claim 1 and 2~~, other advantageous designs, for example an inlet or outlet for the flow-through container which can extend axially or transversely thereto, i.e. radially.

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 12 has been deleted as follows:

~~The advantages described with regard to the inventive designs according to Claim 1 and 2 also apply correspondingly to the inventive methods according to Claims 16 and 17.~~